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**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-22 have been cancelled from this application. New claims 23-38 have been added to this application with claim 25 and 31 being independent.

The new claims overcome the rejections under Section 112.

In addition, the claims define over the '240 patent to Camilleri by reciting a device having two distinct positions, the base and the lead guide finger (9) for separating the pins from the bowling balls.


Since this amendment places the application in condition for allowance, the entrance of this amendment is respectfully solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."**

Respectfully submitted,

**HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.**

6/27/02  
Date

  
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**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this **AMENDMENT** for Serial Number 09/932,283 is being sent by Facsimile Transmission to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C., to the attention of Examiner W. Pierce from Group 3711, to Facsimile Phone Number (703) 308-7957 on June 27, 2002

  
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VERSION WITH MARKS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-22.

Please add the following new claims:

23. (New) An automatic pinsetter bowling machine comprising:
- a set of back ball lift rods (12);
- a set of bowling ball return rails (15),
- a ball return wheel (6) for moving a bowling ball along the lift rods (12) and  
discharging the bowling ball into said return rails (15),
- a retriever device (1) secured to said wheel and including a base presenting a  
concave recess (5) for engaging a ball and moving the ball about said lift rods (12),
- said retriever device including a lead guide finger (9) disposed forwardly of said  
recess (5) for separating pins out of said wheel.
24. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 23 wherein said lead guide finger  
(9) has a front angled edge (3) and is angled upwardly from said front angled edge (3) for  
guiding pins away from said wheel while guiding balls into said concave recess (5).
25. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 24 wherein said front angled edge  
(3) of said lead guide finger (9) is disposed between the sides of said concave recess (5) with  
said concave recess (5) having a leading edge (13) adjacent said front angled edge (3).

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26. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 25 including a concave leading edge (10) extending between said leading edge (13) of said recess (5) and said lead guide finger (9).

27. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 26 wherein said recess (5) includes a top trailing edge (14) rounded for facilitating discharge of a said ball into said return rails (15).

28. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 27 wherein said top trailing edge (14) leads into an angled top rear (4).

29. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 28 including an impact cushion (16) disposed on said angled top rear (4).

30. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 24 wherein said lead guide finger (9) has a radius (11) for cradling a ball against said back ball lift rod (12).

31. (New) A retriever device for guiding a bowling ball against a ball return rails when disposed on a ball return wheel, said device comprising;

a retriever device (1) including a base presenting a concave recess (5) for engaging a ball and moving the ball,

said retriever device including a lead guide finger (9) disposed forwardly of said recess (5) for separating pins while retaining balls.

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32. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 31 wherein said lead guide finger (9) has a front angled edge (3) and is angled upwardly from said first angled edge (3) for guiding pins away while guiding balls into said concave recess (5).

33. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 32 wherein said front angled edge (3) of said lead guide finger (9) is disposed between the sides of said concave recess (5) with said concave recess (5) having a leading edge (13) adjacent said front angled edge (3).

34. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 33 including a concave leading edge (10) extending between said leading edge (13) of said recess (5) and said lead guide finger (9).

35. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 34 wherein said recess (5) includes a top trailing edge (14) rounded for facilitating discharge of a said ball.

36. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 35 wherein said top trailing edge (14) leads into an angled top rear (4).

37. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 36 including an impact cushion (16) disposed on said angled top rear (4).

38. (New) A machine as set forth in claim 32 wherein said lead guide finger (9) has a radius (11) for cradling a ball.

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